



I-90 Floating Bridge repair

2009: Plan ahead – www.wsdot.wa.gov/construction/2009



Round the clock closure May 2009 and July 2009

The I-90 floating bridge (the Homer Hadley) has four of the world's largest expansion joints. These joints allow the bridge to bend and flex with heavy traffic, wind and waves. These four expansion joints are aging and cracking. If not replaced, bridge engineers are concerned the joints will pop up and drivers will hit large chunks of steel.



Round the clock closures

MAY 2009

I-90 express lanes closed around the clock
May 4 - 23

MAY 2009						
Su	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

JULY 2009

Westbound I-90 across the floating bridge closed
around the clock July 5 - 28

NOTE: Drivers can still use all lanes east of Mercer Island

JULY 2009						
Su	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Contact:

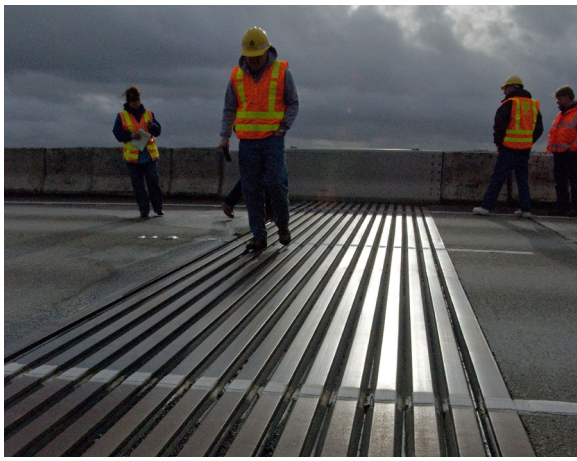
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[www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/I90/
HomerHadleyBridgeRepair/](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/I90/HomerHadleyBridgeRepair/)

During the closures, drivers can anticipate:

- Significant congestion in the open westbound lanes of I-90 across the bridge
- Delays up to 40 minutes east of Mercer Island
- Congestion on westbound SR 520, SR 522 and I-405
- Congestion on eastbound I-90 across the bridge

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO



Expansion joints allow the bridge to bend and flex with heavy traffic, changing temperatures, wind and waves.



The joints are continuing to crack and deteriorate, requiring constant maintenance.

Construction noise

This work is unavoidably noisy and will take place around the clock, including at night. Residents may hear jackhammers, concrete saws, compressors and generators as crews replace the bridge expansion joints. Crews must work at night to adhere to the construction schedule and minimize inconvenience to drivers.

How will we reduce noise at night?

Crews will take several steps to minimize nighttime noise. The noisiest equipment, called a hoe ram, will not be used between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m. Trucks will be equipped with broadband backup alarms, which are quieter than conventional alarms. Additionally, all trucks in the work zone will be required to have rubber bedliners and secured tailgates that don't bang.

Expansion joint replacement

The solid steel expansion joints are extremely large and heavy. One set is 42 feet long, the second set is 65 feet long. They are under construction at this time. Only one company in the United States makes joints this large.

During construction, WSDOT contractor crews will:

- Close the entire road.
- Dig up the concrete.
- Remove the 65-ton and 40-ton joints.
- Carry in and install the new joints.
- Pour concrete.

The benefit

This is a preservation and safety project. If the joints were to separate from the bridge, drivers could be injured or killed. An unexpected failure could take up to 10 months to repair and the bridge would remain closed to all traffic during the work.

What should drivers do?

- Plan ahead knowing that I-90 will be exceptionally congested in May and July.
- Consider flexing schedules during these months to travel in off-peak hours.
- Limit trans-lake commutes.

What is WSDOT doing?

- Restriping the lanes to allow a maximum number of commuters as possible during construction
- Eliminating work on SR 520 and limiting road work on westbound I-405 and SR 522 during the I-90 closures
- Delivering incentives to the contractor to finish the work as quickly as possible
- Doing extensive outreach to multiple groups to build awareness of the closure

What other work is WSDOT doing?

WSDOT is working with Sound Transit to add high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes to the I-90 outer roadway and new ramps on I-90 between Seattle and Bellevue. www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/I90/TwoWayTransit/

What other closures should I know about?

July 18 and 19: I-90 express lanes closed for Seafair triathlon

July 28 - 31: I-90 closed for Blue Angels Air Show practice and performance

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